

WHAT WE CLAIM IS:

- 1 A support hanger assembly adapted to be fitted or arranged for fitment to the rear face of an upright support of a backrest of a seat or chair, and wherein the upright support comprises a rear face and a forward face, the forward face against which a user's back can rest when seated, the assembly being characterised in that it comprises :
a support means movable between a first stowed and/or non-usable position within, or in close proximity to, the rear face of the backrest and,
a second usable position projecting from the backrest and
wherein the assembly is adapted when in use to support a garment.
- 2 A support hanger assembly according to Claim 1 adapted for fitment to a backrest of an existing seat or chair.
3. A support hanger assembly according to Claim 1 or Claim 2 wherein, in the second usable position, the assembly projects outwards and upwards.
4. A support hanger assembly according to any one of the preceding Claims wherein the support means comprises:
a plurality of linking arms medially positioned substantially in alignment one above the other and,
a hinge means, hingeably connecting said linking arms between the forward face of the support hanger assembly and the outer rear face of a base recessed within the rear face of a seat or chair backrest and
wherein the linking arms are adapted to work co-operatively to enable the support hanger to move between the first stowable and/or non-usable position and the second usable position.
5. A seat or chair backrest assembly arranged for fitment to the rear face of an upright support wherein the upright support comprises a forward face of a seat against which a user's back can rest when seated, the backrest assembly being characterised in that it comprises:

a rear face incorporating or provided with a support hanger adapted to be movable between a first inner stowed and/or non-usable position and a second usable position projecting from the backrest and wherein the assembly enables a garment to be positioned and supported thereon.

6. A seat backrest assembly according to Claim 5 wherein the support hanger is configured to provide form-fitting support across and between the shoulder portions of a garment and, in use, is adapted to maintain the garment's shape.

7. A seat backrest assembly according to Claim 6 comprising a medial support portion.

8. A seat backrest assembly according to Claim 7 where in the medial support portion comprises an upper projecting shaped neck portion and a plurality of opposite laterally projecting wing portions co-operating therewith, the wing portions adapted to support the shoulder portions of a garment.

9. A seat backrest assembly according to Claim 8 wherein the upper projecting neck portion is manoeuvrable in a telescopic-like fashion.

10. A seat backrest assembly according to Claim 8 where in the medial support portion the neck portion is absent.

11. A seat backrest assembly according to any one of Claims 5 to 10 wherein the rear face of the seat backrest is recessed to enable a support hanger to be housed within said backrest recess when the support hanger is in a first stowable and/or non-usable position.

12. A seat backrest assembly according to Claim 11 wherein the support means comprises: a plurality of linking arms medially positioned substantially in alignment one above the other and a hinge means, hingeably connecting said linking arms between the forward face of the support hanger and the outer rear face of a base recessed within the rear face of the backrest and wherein the linking arms are adapted to work co-operatively to enable support hanger to move

between the first stowable and/or non-usable position and the second usable position.

13. A seat backrest assembly according to any one of Claims 11 or 12 wherein the backrest recess conforms in depth and shape to the thickness and shape of the support hanger.

14. A seat backrest assembly according to any one of Claims 11 to 13 wherein the backrest recess conforms in depth and shape to the thickness and shape of the support hanger and wherein the support hanger portion is configured to lie substantially flush with the rear face of the recessed seat backrest when in the stowable and/or non-usable position.

15. A seat backrest assembly according to any one of Claims 5 to 14 wherein the support hanger is so mounted that when in the first stowed and/or non-usable position the support hanger lies adjacent with the rear face of the backrest.

16. A seat backrest assembly according to any one of Claims 5 to 15 wherein the support hanger is located, when in the second usable position, in a raised projecting attitude relative to the backrest to support a coat, jacket or garment in an elevated position sufficient to allow the lower edge portions of said garment to remain clear of the floor on which the seat is located.

17. A combination seat backrest/support hanger assembly, the combination comprising the support hanger assembly according to any one of Claims 1 to 4 and the rear face of a seat back rest assembly and wherein the combination is adapted and arranged as a replacement assembly for replacing a conventional backrest of an existing seat or chair, or, as a complete or partial unit for fitment into a new seat or chair

18. A combination seat backrest/support hanger assembly according to Claim 17 wherein the combination is adapted to be attached to the rear face of the upright support of a chair or seat by means of a screw-on, clip-on or snap fit arrangement

19. A seat or chair comprising the support hanger assembly according to any one of Claims 1 to 4.
20. A seat or chair comprising the seat backrest assembly according to any one of Claims 5 to 16.
21. A seat or chair comprising the support hanger assembly according to any one of Claims 1 to 4, or the seat or backrest according to any one of Claims 5 to 16, wherein the seat or chair is stackable, or of a type which may appropriately be found in an aeroplane, train, motorised vehicle, in a stadium, auditorium, cinema, theatre, educational or institutional facility.
22. A support hanger assembly substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to Figures 1 to 8.
23. A seat backrest assembly substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to Figures 1 to 8